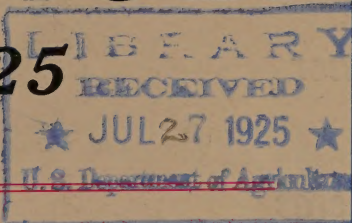


63.9
AUSTRALIA
1925

SHEPHERDS' GLADIOLI

1925



SOME GLADIOLUS FACTS

BY
THE FIRM OF
A CENTURY
ESTAB. 1827

P. L. C. SHEPHERD & SON
LTD.

(Next Haymarket P.O.)
734 George Street, Sydney
PHONES: CITY 1101-1703

Gladioli in this List also obtainable
at
THE CENTURY SEED COY.
1 CRANE PLACE



D. N. Shoemaker JUL 22 1925

*Every
"Worth
While"
Gardener
Grows
Shepherds'
Gladioli*

Because

Practically every (corn) bulb grows.

They adapt themselves to all climates, soils, conditions; and may be had in flower nearly the whole year round.

Their color schemes defy adequate description; varying from the most dainty shades to colours of dazzling beauty, with vivid blotches and markings.

As cut flowers, for decorating hall or table, they have no equal in elegance and lasting qualities. There is no suggestion of stiffness about modern Gladioli.

In the garden their striking stateliness is apparent, equally when grown in clumps or masses, as when the corms are planted here and there among annuals or other plants, to display their lovely spikes above the greenery of surrounding foliage.

Gladioli are inexpensive because they multiply so rapidly. Whole beds may soon be planted from the produce of only a few original bulbs.

They have gained popularity, even against the interested opposition of people with other lines to sell. A lasting popularity now extends over Australasia, Europe, America, Asia, Africa, and everywhere that flowers are grown.

Gladioli Societies have sprung up, which specialize in this wonderful flower. Their shows disclose a vision of dazzling colour, and exquisite grandeur, not equalled by any other floral exhibition.

*We
are
Proud*

Our firm, having been for 98 years associated with all that is best in the Gladioli world, we are justly proud. Just to think of these gorgeously beautiful flowers, at once causes Shepherds' name to spring to mind. We have played a big part in enabling discriminating clients throughout Australia to see and obtain the world's best productions in these noble flowers.

It will be noticed our list in the following pages is a select one, containing what we regard as the best of every colour, and as the best are as easily grown as the poor ones, our clients will be pleased to thus have their choosing simplified. Our Gladioli prices are in no case dearer than any other recognised Firm, and in several lines we are cheaper.

Good quality at reasonable prices, is what you want, and Shepherds will see that you get it.

*Before
Ordering
Read
This*

Anyone wishing a quantity of one kind will be quoted a special rate.

We will return money for any we are unable to supply, unless you tell us to substitute.

We do not mind small orders—even of only a single bulb.

Remember your children.—They are very keen on seeing the nice large blooms growing in their own little patch.

Every possible precaution is taken to ensure **correct naming** of all corms sent out, and a mistake is a rare occurrence. Should such occur, however, we trust we shall be given the opportunity of rectifying it.

It seems necessary to state that gladioli corms at maturity **vary greatly in size, according to the variety**; and also that some slight **variation in the colour of the flowers** may be expected under unfavourable conditions, in the case of light, self-coloured varieties.

We can supply from April to September, but of course, **early ordering is preferable**, as some lines get sold out.

SHEPHERDS'

3/6 GLADIOLI

POST FREE.

PASADENA.—(Only a few for sale). A new and very large flower, many open at a time. Colour—Turkish-red, white in throat.

2/6 GLADIOLI

2/6 each (post free), or any 3 for 7/- (post free)

GERTRUDE ERREY.—Introduced recently.

This beautiful variety is among the very finest pink gladioli in existence, either as a decorative or show variety. The colouring is exquisite, a light salmon or shell pink on the outer part of the flower, shading off to almost white in the centre; a spot of a deeper colour in the throat. Large flowers of most graceful form, always well placed on splendid long spikes.



RENOWN.—A gladiolus of the highest quality, and of exquisite coloring, which, in the centre is a lovely deep cream, shading off to a lighter tint at the edges, a pure yellow blotch in the throat. Flowers of most refined type, on long, perfectly-formed spikes.

LADDIE BLUE.—Saccordo's violet, shading lighter towards the centre, edges of petals streaked darker, blotches of rich purple edged white. Good flowers and spikes.

MYRA NELL.—Immense wide open flowers, nicely shaped, lovely tints of soft rose, shading lighter towards centre. Beautiful blotches.

MINIWA.—Pale pink shading lighter towards centre, streaked scarlet, with blotches. Large blooms and splendid spike.

TRESSA (only a few for sale).—Good long spike of well-shaped flowers. Ivory white with yellow blotch. Throat speckled with red.

Some Kinds Scarce—Order Early.
State if we may substitute if sold out.

See page 13 for cheap mixture.

SHEPHERDS'

2/- Gladioli

2/- each - - (post free)
or any 4 for 7/- (post free)



AEROPLANE. — Immense spreading flower, up to six inches across, of a bright crimson scarlet color, with lighter centre. Not many flowers open at a time, but the size and brilliance of the flowers atone for this defect, at least for decoration.

ORBY.—Bright crimson, suffused and flaked with deep crimson, shading to a lighter color at edges. Distinct in appearance, and of rich color, with large, spreading flowers on unusually long, graceful spikes, this variety may be recommended for both decoration and exhibition.

ORION.—Color a rich shade of reddish orange, with glowing orange-crimson blotch in centre. Has large, bold flowers, up to eight open on a graceful spike. Tall and unusually strong in growth, and a grand variety for all purposes.

CORELLA.—Good spikes and large flowers. A beautiful tint of cosine pink with white blotches.

*Some kinds scarce, order early. State if we may substitute if sold out.
See page 13 for cheap mixture.*

'Testimonials.

"Enclosed please find money order for more Gladioli. I am so well pleased with those I got last year that I am going to clean out all my stock and renew with yours."

"Words cannot express our wonder and delight as each new one came in bloom. People from all over the neighbourhood stopped to admire them."

"The Gladioli bulbs I bought of you did remarkably well. All of them were finer than I had ever bought and I have been growing Gladioli for over 20 years."

29 of Shepherds' 1/6 Gladioli

1/6 each (post free).

Any 25 separate 1/6 kinds (post free), 30/-

Any 12 separate 1/6 kinds (post free), 16/-

Any 6 separate 1/6 kinds (post free), 8/6

AVERILL.—When at its best, in cool weather, this variety is the very finest exhibition gladioli, and is at all times a charming variety for decoration. Color, rosy salmon, generally flaked with salmon scarlet (either color may predominate), a large and striking pure yellow blotch on lower petals (early).

BYRON L. SMITH.—A very fine American variety, having flowers of excellent type on perfect long spikes. The color, soft lavender pink, is very attractive, and quite distinct. Cream blotches on lower petals. Of the highest quality generally, and one of the most beautiful varieties grown.

CATHERINA.—An addition to the "blue" section, and one of the best we have tested lately. Has a pretty light mauve blue ground, a darker shade on lower petals, and maroon centre. Flowers of about average size for this color, spike above average length.

COLLAROY.—Ground color, pinkish lavender shaded and streaked red-dish crimson. Cream in throat and on lower petals. Large flowers.

DESDEMONE.—Color, ashy rose, with darker under-color at edges. Fine, large spreading flowers, about four open at a time. A variety of weird coloring.

ENSIGN.—A grand crimson-scarlet gladiolus, and the finest of the white blotched varieties we have seen. Color rosy red, flaked and suffused with scarlet, on which the clear white blotch shows up to good effect. Blooms of unusual size, on long, well-arranged spikes. Suitable for exhibition. (Late.)

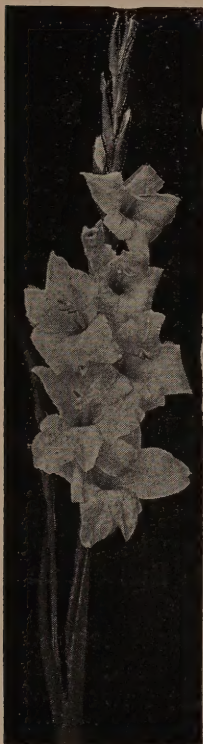
EMILE AUBRUN.—Is one of the largest. It is also one of the most distinct and striking in color, which is an indescribable blend of salmon, orange, slate, etc. (the raiser describes the whole effect as a coppery bronze), cherry colored blotch in centre. Immense flowers on grand, long spike. A magnificent variety for all work.

EUROPE.—Several new pure whites have been introduced lately, but for purity of color, size of flower, and length of spike combined, there is still nothing in commerce to equal this variety. It is the connoisseur's and exhibitor's white; the florist and cut-flower grower will prefer "L'Immaculee" or "White Giant."



Some kinds scarce, order early. State if we may substitute if sold out.

See page 13 for cheap mixture.



1/6 Gladioli—(Continued)

GOLDEN MEASURE.—Among pure deep yellows this variety stands out well ahead of everything else. Richer and deeper in color than all others at all approaching it in size, it has also a long spike, and strong vigorous growth. Where depth of color, large size, and abundance of vigor are desired, this world-famous variety will splendidly meet the need.

HERODION.—One of the very best pink-flaked gladioli, valuable for all purposes, and especially for exhibition, on account of its unusually long spikes. Color, rose pink, heavily flaked with a darker shade.

IVANHOE.—Slaty mauve, with large, clear white blotches marked with deep rich violet.

IREMEL.—Among gladioli up to show standard this variety, we believe, in color stands alone. It is a true bright crimson—not a dark shade—large cream blotch on lower petals. Very large flowers; spikes of exceptional length, though at times rather crowded: In all other respects excellent. (Late).

JOE COLEMAN.—The flowers of this variety are ruffled. It has well-opened flowers of good size, and nicely formed spike. Color bright crimson with lighter centre. A fine distinct variety, and one of the best of the ruffled class.

KING PEARL.—One of the indispensables for all purposes, having the large flowers and long, well-arranged spikes desired by the exhibitor, and the vigor and hardiness necessary for general cultivation. The color makes it especially valuable, being white, deepening to cream in centre, with a cream yellow blotch in throat. Grows up to 12 open flowers on a beautifully-formed spike.

LAVINIA.—One of the most pleasing pinks. Light pink in centre, with cream line on smaller petals, the outer part of the flower and the buds are beautifully tinted with a fine bright pink shade. "Lavinia" has the long spikes required by exhibitors, and for decoration.

LOVELINESS.—A grand variety for all purposes, having perfectly formed spikes, carrying up to eleven large flowers open at once. Color, pale creamy yellow with a suffusion of apricot. Has secured many prizes.

LEIBESFEUER.—A rich deep scarlet "self," it has award after award from the leading societies. Color very pure, and distinct in its glowing effect. Flowers of average size, splendid long spikes. Undoubtedly one of the grandest varieties ever raised.

LAVANDULA MAJOR.—A lovely variety, with fine large flowers, and long, well-formed spikes. The color is a beautiful shade of soft lavender pink, with a small cream blotch on the lower petals. Under dry conditions petals may be slightly flecked with carmine. (Late.)

See page 13 for cheap mixture.

Some kinds scarce, order early. State if we may substitute if sold out.

1/6 Gladioli—(Continued)

- LULUN.**—Pale pink, streaked and overlaid with a deeper shade. Nice spike.
- MADAME MOUNET SULLY.**—This grand variety stands out well ahead of practically everything else of similar color. It has large, well-defined blooms of a pure ivory white, with clean-cut crimson-scarlet blotch on lower petals. Splendidly arranged spikes, carrying, when well grown, eight or more open flowers. (Early).
- MYRTLE.**—The color is decidedly pleasing, being a very beautiful light pink shade in centre, deepening to a rather warmer tint at the edges, while its long, perfectly-formed spikes form an additional attraction.
- MAHDI.**—Color, rich purple maroon. Flowers large, and of perfect form. The color is pleasing and quite unlike any other we know. Excellent in every way, and a grand show variety.
- MRS. D. NORTON.**—Exquisite coloring, and a gem for decoration. Color, over most of the flower, light silvery pink, approaching to white; outer part of petals touched with a brighter pink tint; lips cream. Well opened bloom of good size. Winner of many awards.
- NIMROD.**—A rich deep coppery crimson, flecked with chocolate, but practically untouched by any other color, the spike, at a little distance, giving a pleasing one-color effect. The largest flowers of all the crimsons, and is also one of the richest in color. About five flowers open at a time, these, owing to their great size, making a fine spike.
- PINK PERFECTION.**—A famous pink gladiolus of a very fine deep salmon shade. Excellent show spikes may be obtained, but the stem is not strong, and spikes are often much crowded. The beautiful color is much appreciated for indoor decoration.
- RELIANCE.**—A bright colored variety which produces long, well-formed spikes of large flowers. Color, deep scarlet orange, lighter under-color at edges; throat chocolate crimson; the whole effect that of a bright orange crimson. (Late).
- ROUGET DE LISLE.**—A gladiolus of the highest quality, and one of the most reliable exhibition varieties in existence. The color varies. At its best it is a rich, deep, reddish orange, and a striking blotch of purple or violet shade, bordered with chocolate in centre. In type of flower, and in length, and especially formation of spikes, this variety very nearly approaches the ideal. (Late.)
- SENTINEL.**—One of the very best salmon pink gladioli, having a good color, large bold flowers, and excellent spikes. Color, warm salmon pink, with darker feathering, and crimson blotch on cream ground. A favorite with exhibitors.
- TITAN.**—Of all the gladioli this stands out as the largest. Up to six of these truly gigantic blooms, set well apart, form a spike which, once seen, will not readily be forgotten. The color is decidedly pleasing, a clear salmon pink shade with a purple mark on the lower petals.

*Some kinds scarce, order early. State if we may substitute if sold out.
See page 13 for cheap mixture.*



42 of SHEPHERDS' 1/- Kinds

Price 1/- each (post free)

Any 6 separate 1/- ones for 5/6 (post free)

Any 12 separate 1/- ones for 10/6 (post free)

Any 25 separate 1/- ones for £1 (post free)

AFTERGLOW.—Color a beautiful tint of rosy salmon with fawn shading, touched with violet in the centre, the whole giving a delightful sunset effect. Flowers of fine size, on well-arranged spikes.

ATLANTA.—Soft shade of rosy violet with cream blotch in centre. Spikes long, a large number of flowers open at one time.

BLUE JAY.—One of the finest blue gladioli yet raised. Grand, large flowers of a fine light blue shade, relieved with white markings in the centre. Has larger flowers, and in color more nearly approaches a true blue than any other light blue in commerce.

CHANCELLOR.—One of the finest dark crimson gladioli, the great size and substance, the perfect form, smooth texture, and rich

color of the flowers, and the excellent arrangement of the spikes, making up an aggregate of points ahead of most of the dark crimsons. Easily grown and very reliable; may be strongly recommended for exhibition and other work.

CAPT. BRANDT.—Flowers of unusual size and distinct and graceful form. Color very rich and striking, the bright scarlet ground color being enriched with deep crimson mottling. A grand, rich colored variety. Excellent for all purposes, and most valuable for the cut-flower trade.

CHRIS.—The feature of this variety is the intense deep crimson self color, a rich and uncommon shade quite distinct from the coppery or the maroon crimsons. Has a flower of good size, but not a long spike.

CONSTANCE.—A lovely variety for decorative work, and is not to be despised as a show variety when well grown. The color of the upper petals is rich salmon with lighter under-color; lower petals bright nasturtium orange or salmon. Recommended to cut-flower growers, and for florists' work. (Early.)

DAWN.—A well-known and popular Canadian variety, with stiff, erect spikes of large flowers. Color a pleasing shade of salmon, with markings of deeper color in the throat.

ELEANOR.—Fine large flowers, very well placed on strong spikes. Color in centre a blend of cream and pink, deepening to a deep rose or rosy cerise at edges; crimson maroon blotch in centre. We recommend it for its general good qualities and reliability.

See page 13 for cheap mixture.

Some kinds scarce, order early. State if we may substitute if sold out.

42 of *Shepherds'* 1/- *Kinds*

(Continued).



EVELYN KIRTLAND.—An addition to the salmon section, and a decidedly good one. It stands stiff and erect, yet has a light and graceful appearance. Color, an attractive salmon, or salmon pink shade, scarlet blotch on lower segments. Flowers, very graceful in form, well placed on long spike. Good for exhibition, etc.

EMPRESS OF INDIA.—The darkest in color of the maroon-crimson section. Color, deep crimson maroon, heavily marked with almost black lines, a white line through lower petals. Rich in color, and having a longer spike than any other of its color. It has become a general favorite for all work.

FLORENCE.—Color a very bright and pleasing shade of lilac, with a pure white blotch in centre. Immense flowers, larger than any other of its color, and unusually stiff spikes, carrying up to about six open flowers at a time. Of great value for the flower border.

FARLEY.—Deep rose, pale yellow throat, blotched with light crimson. Large white flowers, lilac blotch.

GOLDEN KING (Juno).—Color, clear yellow, with dark crimson maroon blotch in centre. Spike long, flowers of good size and excellent type. Good for exhibition, etc.

GOLIATH.—Good spike, large flowers; rich, deep crimson-maroon with ^{by} darker shading and mottling.

GRETCHEN ZANG.—Color, a very lovely shade of pink which may be described as soft salmon rose; throat scarlet. Flowers above average size, on spike of medium length. A beautiful decorative variety. (Late.)

HELIOS.—Large, spreading flowers of an apricot scarlet color, flecked with orange; centre darker. The large flowers and bright color give this variety a good decorative value, and it is rather widely grown on that account.

HESPERA.—Long spikes, white flowers, hardy. Good for gardens and cut flowers.

HOPE.—Large, shapely white, touched with lilac in throat.

JUNO (Golden King).—Color, clear yellow, with dark crimson maroon blotch in centre. Spike long, flowers of good size and excellent type. Identical with "Golden King." Good for exhibition, etc.

KUNDERDI GLORY.—Color, buff, with purple stripe through the throat. It is a very strong growing variety, producing fine spikes of large flowers, but its distinctive feature is the novel form of the flowers, the petals being prettily frilled at the edges.

See page 13 for cheap mixture.

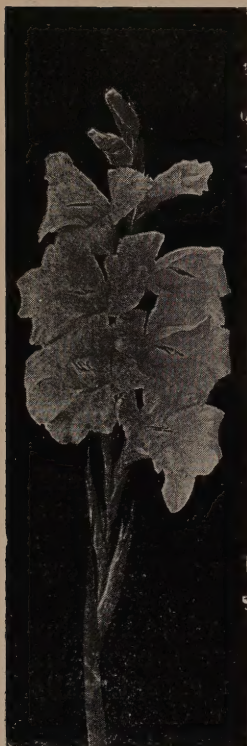
Some kinds scarce, order early. State if we may substitute if sold out.

42 of our 1/- Kinds—(Continued)

LEOLIN.—We recommend this variety on account of its attractive color (which is a delicate soft pink, deepening towards the edges, and flaked with a deeper shade), its splendid long spikes, and general reliability. It is a first-class garden and show variety, and should be excellent for the cut-flower trade.

LEURA.—A strong, healthy growing variety, with large flowers of good substance, perfectly arranged on strong spikes, carrying up to six open blooms. Color a light shade of scarlet, with light centre, and a dark blotch. (Late.)

LEON DUVAL.—This variety is very popular with our customers, on account of its beautiful and distinct coloring, and the graceful form of flower and spike. Color, creamy buff, with bright reddish brown centre. A grand hardy variety. Good for exhibition, etc.



L'IMMACULEE.—A pure white gladiolus of refined type and robust constitution. Very easily grown. One of the best pure whites for garden, for cut-flowers and all florists' work.

METEOR.—The chief feature of this variety is the intense color, which may be described as fiery nasturtium orange.

MELVIN.—One of the finest for general purposes in its color section. Color very rich and bright, being a glowing reddish-orange, shaded and mottled with a darker color. Fine, well-opened flowers, and good spikes.

MRS. F. PENDLETON.—The large flowers and beautiful bright colors of this variety have won for it world-wide approval, especially as a decorative gladiolus. Color, light salmon pink, showing blood-red blotches on lower petals. Undoubtedly one of the most beautiful gladioli in existence.

MARECHAL FOCH.—Originating from a cross between the two famous varieties, "Halley" and "America," this variety inherits the color of "America," with much of the size of "Halley." Spike carries up to six open flowers. Growth, dwarf. Pale shell pink, shaded white.

*Some kinds scarce, order early. State if we may substitute if sold out.
See page 13 for cheap mixture.*

42 of our 1/- Kinds—(Continued)

NIAGARA.—A popular American variety of a nankeen or buff yellow color, edges of petals tinted pink, and throat touched with carmine. When well grown it forms a splendid spike, but varies greatly both in form of spike and color. Otherwise excellent. Good for exhibition.

PANAMA.—A beautiful pink gladiolus. Has a splendid constitution of vigor and hardiness. Largely grown for cut flowers, etc., the world over.

PAPILIO ROSE.—A handsome variety, having perfectly-formed spikes of large flowers. Color a lovely shade of pink, a distinct zone of creamy white on lower petals. Absolutely distinct in appearance, and very attractive in color.

PRIDE OF HILLEGOM.—We anticipate a strong demand for this variety as soon as its value for garden and decoration becomes known generally. It has large flowers, up to six open at a time, but its chief value is in its brilliant scarlet color, and its strong, branching habit of growth. The brightest scarlet in our lists.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Has grand long spikes, and large flowers of a lovely soft shade of salmon touched with cream on lower petals. Vigorous in growth and one of the earliest to bloom, it has achieved world-wide fame for the cut-flower trade and florists' work as well as a fine show variety.

PRINCE IMPERIAL.—Bright red shading, lighter towards centre. Rich crimson blotches edged cream. Good spike, large flowers.

PELARGONIUM.—Good spike of large flowers. White faintly overlaid lilac. Large purple blotches.

SIR NIGEL.—Color pale yellow, flushed with buff, pink on edges of petals, and crimson blotch in throat. Fine large flowers, borne on grand spikes. A splendid gladiolus for exhibition, etc.

SAPHIR.—One of the finest in the deep violet section. No other variety of its color section approaches it for richness and intensity of color. In a subdued light it appears almost a rich deep blue, and is most effective when grouped with yellows.

SCHWABEN.—The well-known sulphur yellow gladiolus, almost a self, the small brownish-carmine spot being well back in the throat. Fine, large flowers, and splendid, long stiff spikes, though often rather too closely set. Has a truly magnificent constitution, and is grown everywhere. (Late.)

VICTOR.—Brilliant scarlet, with large, conspicuous, pure white blotches on lower petals. It has extra large, well-opened flowers, about six open at a time on strong, well-formed spike. An exceptionally vigorous variety which we recommend for all purposes. (Late.)

WILLBRINK.—Light rose pink, large flowers and splendid qualities. (Early.)

WAR.—Color, deep blood red, practically a self. Has large, bold flowers and well-formed spikes. Is grown everywhere and highly esteemed for its rich color, size of flower and vigor. (Late.)

WHITE GIANT.—We recommend it as a pure white of quite exceptional size and vigor, truly a giant among whites, and valuable for floral work and the flower border, the spikes standing upright and strong, and carrying a good number of open flowers, though generally not regular enough for exhibition.

SHEPHERDS' MIXTURE

OF GLADIOLI CORMS

(Bulbs)

A Grand Mixture of
∴ Ordinary Kinds ∴



Per dozen	-	-	-	5/-
50 for	-	-	-	15/-
100 for	-	-	-	27/6

(Post Free)



*Some kinds scarce, order early.
State if we may substitute if
sold out. For separate name
kinds see other pages.*

SHEPHERDS' CULTURE HINTS

SOIL.

Gladioli require less trouble to grow successfully than any other favorite flower. Almost any class of soil suits them, or can be made to do so without much trouble. Light sandy soils are improved if some old decomposed cow or farmyard manure can be dug deeply in, some time previous to planting. Fairly heavy soil suits them perfectly, if sufficiently well drained; but extra heavy, clay soil needs some sand or decomposed vegetable matter dug in to keep it open, and prevent the possibility of surface cracks, or the heavy soil getting too tightly around corms, thus impeding their growth. Frequent stirring of the surface soil (whilst it is in a condition not too wet, yet not too dry) will help to mellow even the heaviest soil.

SITUATION.

Any aspect will grow gladioli; but the ideal position is one where plenty of sunlight shines for the greater part of the day. It is a mistake to choose shady positions.

Avoid, as far as possible, growing them on the same plot for more than one season. If a crop of some other varieties of flowers can be grown alternately with the "glads," all will be well.

PLANTING.

Corms may be planted (in similar climates to Sydney) from July to early summer; then again from February to May. In cold climates the planting should start in August, continue till November, then cease till the end of December, after which plant till the middle of February. For a continuous show, plant corms every two weeks, during the term stated.

Plant deeply. In heavy soils, from 3 to 4 inches, according to size of corms. In light soils, 6 inches is not too deep.. This does away with the need for staking except in exposed, windy situations.

Soil and subsoil must be moist (but not wet) at planting time.

WATERING.

Avoid surface sprinkling—water thoroughly, soaking the subsoil well. Then, when the soil is dry enough to work freely and without clogging, cultivate the top soil to a fine tilth. At flowering time they appreciate copious supplies of moisture; but gradually withhold once the flower has withered, or foliage turns yellow at tips denoting plant going to rest.

MANURING.

Virgin soil, or land that was well manured for preceding crop, would NOT need further manuring; but poor, hungry soils need enriching with well-rotted animal manure. This must be dug in deeply. No manure or fertiliser should be brought directly in contact with the corms, or disease will result. If dug deep down, however, the roots will go in search of it, and big sturdy plants with extra size blooms will result. If animal manure of correct condition is scarce, substitute bonedust. It also is best kept well down in the subsoil, and must not be used too strong—about a small handful to every square yard is ample. A light sprinkling of sulphate of potash is beneficial—particularly in sandy soils. Work it in with rake or cultivator. When extra large flowers are desired, give weak liquid manure every 8 or 10 days from the time the color shows. Nitrate of soda at rate of a tablespoonful to 4 gallons of water (sufficient for 12 to 18 plants), liquid made from fresh cow manure, and of strength that resembles very weak tea when being poured out, and soot water, are all suitable for assuring large blooms, and intensifying colors. Liquid manure must always be applied to soil that is already damp—never whilst it is dry. Better saturate the ground between rows, or about clumps, than to apply right up to the plants.

SHEPHERDS' CULTURE HINTS—Continued

CUTTING BLOOMS.

Cut early in the morning (just as the third flower is bursting), and do not remove foliage. Cut with a slant or long bevel, and place in water. Choose a cool room, to prolong their beauty. Every morning remove faded flowers—cut a piece off stem—and give fresh water. Treated thus every flower on each spike opens, and the lasting qualities are greatly enhanced. By removing the anthers (pollen bearing organs) from the centre of the blooms that are to remain on plants, they are induced to remain fresh longer.

ONLY ONE DISEASE.

Should the foliage of an odd corm begin prematurely to turn yellow or brown from the base, and the stem below the surface, on examination, be found to have a scalded appearance, usually in patches, the corm has contracted the only ailment likely to cause any annoyance to the gladiolus grower. The trouble is probably as old as the gladiolus itself, yet little is known of it except that it travels slowly through the soil, from corm to corm, if conditions are favorable. Therefore, it is well to remove an affected corm, together with the soil immediately surrounding it, as soon as its condition is ascertained. Cut off and burn the foliage, or destroy the whole plant if it is of little value. Otherwise the corm may be placed away to dry, and if planted separately, and given dry conditions next season, will probably produce a healthy corm. Occasional losses from the above cause may be expected (but that they are not serious enough, generally, to diminish the popularity of gladiolus, is very evident), and the threatened loss may be easily more than made good by planting each year, or every other year, a few of the tiny cormlets usually to be found adhering to the corms when lifted.

LIFTING THE CORMS.

As soon after flowering as the corm has attained its full size, and before the foliage turns yellow, is the correct time for lifting. (On no account must the corms be left in the ground all the year, not even until the foliage dies.) Generally from four to six weeks will be sufficient. After lifting cut off the tops close to the corms, and spread the corms out under shelter to dry. Leave for a few weeks, then remove the old shrivelled corm and roots, and store the new corms in a cool, dry place until next planting time.

Testimonials.

"I was so highly pleased with the ones I got last year that I have greatly increased my order for this year. Your Gladioli are truly wonderful. I shall give them my highest endorsement to all my friends who are interested in flowers."

"I am sending this order early, and if for any reason you are unable to furnish any variety ordered, I am perfectly willing for you to use your own judgment in substituting."

"The bulbs were certainly the healthiest ones that I ever purchased, and as for the blossoms, they were certainly the handsomest that I ever saw."

"During the past 10 years I have planted many Gladioli bulbs, but I never knew what exquisite colors could be produced until I planted yours."

"I want to express my appreciation of the Gladioli. The Gladioli is the flower for the busy men who must have a few flowers."

"It does not seem possible that there could be any flowers much better than the ones you sent last year, but I am going to try some of the new ones just to see."

"I have grown your Gladioli since 1870 and have always had very good results."

"I am eighty years old, and cannot afford to spend my time fooling with poor ones, so always get Shepherd's. I have dealt with you for 35 years."

1925

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